



## Tippecanoe County GIS Policy Committee Meeting April 16, 2006

The *GIS* Policy Committee members met April 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room of the Tippecanoe County Office Building. Bob Plantenga called the meeting to order.

### **Committee Members Present**

Highway Director Opal Kuhl, GIS Administrator Khalid Hasan, Executive Director of MITS Diane Hawkins, APC Director Sallie Fahey, County Assessor Nancy Moore, County Commissioner KD Benson, County Commissioner John Knochel, Auditor Bob Plantenga, Cinde Shockey recording secretary.

### **AGENDA**

- 1. GIS DSO**
- 2. Voting Information Search Application for Polling Locations**
- 3. Demo. Voting website: <http://www.tippecanoe.in.gov/precincts>**
- 4. Demo. of GIS improvements: <http://www.tippecanoe.in.gov/gis>**
- 5. Others**

### **GIS DSO**

Diane announces that the DSO has already been to second reading. KD said several of the surveyors were in favor of the DSO. The DSO will be in effect starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be required to submit the data digitally right away without a 30 day waiting period. Paper copies will still be required for the Recorder's office. Diane says that the Recorder will just turn around and scan the paper into a file. Sallie says there has to be a paper copy because they have to have original signatures on the documents and so she doesn't see any immediate solution to get rid of the paper copies. Khalid said it would be easier if everyone had access to the Recorder's documents. Bob said he didn't think anyone else could view a document unless they are in the Recorder's office.

## **Voting Information Search Application for Polling Locations**

Khalid is giving a presentation of the newly developed Voter Search application. There are 69 polling locations 40 will have physical computers for Election Day which will have the Voter Search application software installed. This will allow them to search the registered voter database to assist voters with locating their correct polling location. This database is also included on the County website so Voters may use the software from home. The pc's are retired County equipment and there will be 40 LCD's to be used. Sallie Fahey thinks that this would make good video and that Laurie Wilson should call TV 18. Laurie said they would be doing a press release regarding the application and polling places. The Journal and Courier is going to run a full page add. Laurie said they didn't want to send out new registration cards to everyone because they cost would be around \$6000.00. Diane says the software was created to be extremely user friendly. Just type in the name and it should return a list of registered voters with that name and it will list their polling location and provide a picture of the location. It has the capacity to search by name, polling location, precinct or address.

### **Demo. Voting website: <http://www.tippecanoe.in.gov/precincts>**

The precinct website is a little more complicated than the Voter search application. APC worked with GIS to get all of the precincts mapped to our base mapping. This along with the voter registration data set allows you to zoom into the polling location and return specific information. There are a variety of layers that can turned on or off by the user. This provides more detailed information regarding each precinct. Diane notices that currently there are only numbers associated with the official office rather than names of the incumbents. Sallie brings up the point that someone needs to make the decision from a political stand point whether or not it should return the incumbents name.

### **Demo. of GIS improvements: <http://www.tippecanoe.in.gov/gis>**

Khalid demonstrates and hands out a list of the recently updated GIS layers list that have been added to the secure GIS site:

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Aerials 1997                | 11 Tornado Touchdowns             |
| 2 Aerials 2002                | 12 Tornado Paths                  |
| 3 Aerials 2003                | 13 Warning Sirens                 |
| 4 American Red Cross Shelters | 14 Warning Siren Coverage         |
| 5 Fire Stations               | 15 Hazardous Material Handlers    |
| 6 Police Stations             | 16 Waste Water Treatment Facility |
| 7 Hospital                    | 17 ESA                            |
| 8 Other Care Facilities       | 18 ESN                            |
| 9 Potable Water Facility      | 19 Military                       |
| 10 Communication Facility     | 20 EMS AGENCY                     |

21 EMS STATION	73 Township Range Lines
22 EMS RESPONSE	74 Airports
23 EMS REPORT	75 I65 Mile Markers
24 EMS DISTRICT	76 Major Roads
25 FIRE AGENCY	77 Roads
26 FIRE STATION Coverage	78 Edge of Pavement
27 FIRE RESPONSE	79 Driveways
28 FIRE REPORT	80 Rail Station or Yard
29 FIRE DISTRICT	81 Rail
30 FIRE GP	82 Road Nos
31 LAW AGENCY	83 Road Closures
32 LAW BEAT	84 Bridges
33 LAW REPORT	85 Culverts
34 LAW DISTRICT	86 Bus Station
35 Polling Locations	87 Bus Lines
36 Precincts	88 Dam
37 County Commissioner	89 USGS Stream Gages
38 County Council	90 Ditches
39 Lafayette Council	91 Hydrology
40 West Lafayette Council	92 Wabash River
41 State House	93 Cities
42 State Senate	94 Reserves
43 Landuse Type	95 Townships
44 Landuse Class	96 County
45 Property Sales	97 Zipcodes
46 Neighborhood	98 Parks
47 Parcels	99 Index Contours - Major
48 Subdivisions	100 Intermediate Contours - Minor
49 Plat Pages	101 Spot Elevations
50 Schools	102 Soils
51 School Districts	103 Mosquito Monitoring
52 Conservancy	104 Septic Permits 1973-2004
53 TIF Districts	105 Zoning
54 Tax Districts	106 Cemetery
55 Addresses	107 X-Section
56 Buildings	108 BFE Elevation
57 Auxillary Structures	109 Flood Hazard Zone
58 Sanitary Manholes	110 Water Features
59 Sanitary Pipes	111 Water Areas
60 Combined Manholes	112 DFirm Roads
61 Combined Pipes	113 DFirm Areas
62 Storm Manholes	114 DFirm PLSS
63 Storm Pipes	115 DFirm County
64 Curb Inlets	
65 Catch Basins	
66 Outfalls	
67 Fire Hydrants	
68 Water Meter Pits	
69 Water Pipes	
70 Controls	
71 6 Section Plats	
72 Section Nos	

Property sale information from the Assessor's office has been added to the public site. Nancy says she isn't sure about having the property sales information on the public site. Nancy is worried about the color coding because it shows the ratio between the sale price of a property and the assessed value. Nancy said sometimes the ratio isn't as bad as it looks but sometimes it appears that way because it may have been an empty lot and then a house was added. This makes the ratio appear to be way off from the assessed value when it really isn't. The colors represent the ratio difference. There are 5 colors going from green to red with red being a very high ratio. Sallie asks which is better a high number or a low number. Really you want the assessed value and the sale price to be within 3-5%. Nancy says they will be using the neighborhood codes for trending. They just started using neighborhood codes last assessment. Sometimes a property will get coded for the wrong neighborhood and this makes it easier to spot and correct. Sallie asks how the neighborhood lines are drawn. Nancy said that it's based on like properties with similar age and similar surfaces. Sallie says that she thinks they should let people know that this is not how the neighborhoods are set by neighborhood associations or for community development block grant purposes etc. Khalid says the data has been there for several days and they have not received any calls about the data. Khalid says they will update the definition of "neighborhood" in the legend. Khalid gives demonstration of some of the layers available. Khalid says we are up to almost 100+ layers now and he gives a quick demonstration of some of the new layers available on the secure site including the warning sirens. This layer shows the location of the sirens and the range of the alert. Khalid also gives quick run-down of some of the facilities etc that are included: red cross, hospitals, emergency service agencies, fire station, police, communication facilities, military, water treatment facilities. Some of this information was collected by APC and some is being used by E-911. Parts of it was collected for multi-hazard mitigation plan. They also have the cemetery data ready and as soon as Sallie approves it can go on the public website also. The subdivision layer is almost complete. The land use layer is also available which Jim Jones has been working on. He color-coded it to represent different land use. Red is industrial, Yellow is residential, Purple is exempt, Green is Agricultural, Blue is Commercial. This is being mapped using the Assessor's class codes. Schools and school districts have also been worked on recently. Sallie says that one of the new features that her department really likes is the buffer. Sometimes they have to notify residents living within a boundary around a property and using the buffer makes this much easier to do. Khalid says that the Assessor's office recently transferred a call to him from an insurance agent who wanted to locate the fire hydrants next to a property. We don't have the fire hydrants for the whole county but most of the urban areas do. This is the kind of scenario that the buffer is good for. He can select the fire hydrant and select the buffer and it will return a list of properties within a designated range around the hydrant. This feature is needed also for Zoning notification letters and Board of Zoning Appeals. It makes locating the key numbers much easier. This data hasn't yet been made available to the public but it is available on the secure website.

## **Others:**

### **Zoning Layer Update**

Sallie would like to give an update on the Zoning layer. Sallie had Larry start with a pilot project where he would use each different type of zoning area. He started with Stockwell, a portion of Wabash township for the urban area, St. Lawrence McAllister neighborhood and Wayne township. This helped to give him an idea of what type of research was going to be required in the different zoning areas and help him find the information that was available. After the pilot project he began with Wabash township. Wabash has been a challenge because it required a lot of research. The zoning in Wabash is close enough to be used for land use project but Sallie decided to have him switch to rural townships. APC now has draft maps for Lauramie, Randolph, Jackson, Shelby, Sheffield, Perry, Romney, Clarks Hill, and a draft of West Lafayette. Once the drafts are completed they get printed and centrally located in the office where the planners can look them over and check for discrepancies or labeling problems. Khalid thinks this is a good idea for the data to be checked by so many different people. They are printing out the GIS zoning layer at the same scale as the existing map then they lay these over a light table and it makes it easier to pick out discrepancies. Occasionally they have found areas where the zoning line is in one place on a township map and then the same township map in another file may have the line in a different place. An error was recently discovered. There was a misinterpretation when the transition maps were created in the adoption of the new zoning ordinance. Sallie had Larry go back and take the time to do the research of the evolution of the Zoning on this property in order to correct it. APC will have to go through the adoption process to fix some of the problems. This can be done at the end of the project.

### **FEMA Floodplain**

Khalid would like to know the status of the floodplain maps from FEMA. Sallie had a conference call with them in March and she thinks we are going to start receiving data in April or May. This is just the beginning of a long review process and she doesn't think the ending date will be until after they are finished with the zoning. They may have to come up with an interim plan for the floodplain. Sallie also comments that she really likes the improvements to the GIS site and she thinks the users will be very pleased in the future. No other items are raised at this time and Diane calls the meeting to an end.